

ER 1-8634

President James R. Killian  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear President Killian:

I am writing to ask you to let us have the services of Dr. Max Millikan for an additional six months from 1 July to 1 January 1952.

We were in hopes when Dr. Millikan first joined us that we could find someone rather promptly to assist him in organizing the important work with which his office is charged and to take over and carry it forward when he returned to M.I.T. It has taken longer both to get the office under way and to find an appropriate person for the permanent position than we had expected. However, we made some progress and believe that by fall there is a good chance that we can secure the man we want.

The work is of such complexity that we feel it is essential that Dr. Millikan should overlap his successor by several months in order not to lose the momentum and experience we have gained since he arrived.

It is almost impossible to exaggerate the importance of Dr. Millikan's work in coordinating and directing this Government's studies of Soviet and satellite industrial potential. He is doing a truly outstanding job.

Sincerely,

*Walter B. Smith*  
Walter B. Smith  
Director

DDCI:WHJ:B

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2-signer

1-AD/RR

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